

Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-11 /083 W

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R 291730Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3674

INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, UR, SG

SUBJ: SOVIET ENVOY PLEDGES CONTINUED SUPPORT TO MPLA

1. SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL GUEORGUI TER-GAZARIAMTS HELD PRESS CONFERENCE JAN. 27 PRIMARILY DEVOTED TO READING OF TURGID NINE-PAGE STATEMENT ON PREPARATIONS FOR 25TH COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE AND SOVIET DEVELOPMENT SUCSESSES AND OBJECTIVES (E.G., "BY 1980 PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY WILL ATTAIN 1,340-1,380 BILLION KILOWATT-HOURS"). HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO JOURNALIST'S QUESTION ON ANGOLA, AMBASSADOR REPORTEDLY SAID SOVIETS WOULD CONTINUE TO HELP MPLA AS LONG AS MPLA REQUESTED ASSISTANCE, AND ARGUED THIS WAS NOT INTER-FERENCE IN ANGOLA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS SINCE HELP HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY LEGALLY CONSTITUTED GOVERNMENT. AMBASSADOR WAS ALSO ASKED IF USSR HAD SENT TROOPS TO SUPPORT MPLA. ALTHOUGH REMARK WAS NOT REPORTED BY MEDIA, WE UNDERSTAND HE REPLIED THAT THERE WERE NO SOVIET TROOPS IN ANGOLA BECAUSE THEY HAD NOT BEEN REQUESTED; IF MPLA ASKED FOR THEM, THEY WERE READY

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TO GO.

2. PREPARED STATEMENT DEVOTED SEVEN LINES NEAR END TO RELATIONS WITH SENEGAL. SOVIET AMBASSADOR SAID BILATERAL RELATIONS IN RECENT YEARS HAD BEEN MARKED BY FRIENDSHIP AND NOTED USSR HAD GIVEN ASSISTANCE IN FORM OF FOOD, MEDICINE AND EQUIPMENT. HE SAID SOVIET UNION ALWAYS INTENDS TO DEVELOP AMICABLE RELATIONS WITH SENEGAL.

3. PRESS CONFERENCE WAS UNDERPLAYED BY MEDIA. TELEVISION ANNOUNCER VOICED OVER FILM OF PRESS CONFERENCE RATHER THAN CARRYING AMBASSADOR'S ACTUAL REMARKS, AND PRESS RAN STORY ON INSIDE PAGES ONE DAY LATE.

4. EMBASSY POUCHING PREPARED STATEMENT TO MOSCOW.
DAVIS

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Message Attributes

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